



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 30, 2007

PRESS RELEASE

MAYOR ANNOUNCES ELIMINATION OF OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD AND CUSTOMER SERVICES

*Departmental functions will transition to other City departments,
Deputy Chief position eliminated as part of Mayor's plan to
streamline city government and trim budget*

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that as part of the City's plan to reduce operating costs and balance its annual budget, he will be eliminating the Office of Neighborhood and Customer Services, along with the Deputy Chief position that oversees it. The functions of the various departments within the Office of Neighborhood and Customer Services will be transitioned into other City departments over the next three months.

The position of Deputy Chief Operating Officer of Neighborhood and Customer Services—one of six such Deputy Chief positions—is currently held by Ted Martinez Jr. This position will be eliminated at the end of the transition in April 2007.

"I am grateful for the service that Mr. Martinez has provided to the City during the first year under our new form of government," said Mayor Sanders. "His steady guidance and soft-spoken manner will be missed by all those who had the pleasure of working with him."

As part of the Mayor's plan to reduce the size of the City's operating budget, each City department has been asked to make cuts in personnel, streamline operations, and decrease spending.

"It's only fair and equitable that this streamlining process be applied to the all levels of my administration," said Mayor Sanders. "I'm confident that our Chief Operating Officer and I have devised a new organizational model that will provide the same level of services more efficiently and less costly."

Mr. Martinez's salary is \$168,000.

Pursuant to the new organizational model, the following changes will take place:

- The Library, Park and Recreation, and Customer Services departments will now be under the direction of Chief Operating Officer (COO) Ronne Froman as part of her Business Operations and Administration functions.
- Over the next three months, elements of the Park and Recreation Department's planning functions will be transitioned into four areas: Engineering & Capital Projects (Public Works), City Planning and Community Investment (Community and Economic Development), Development Services (Community and Economic Development), and Park and Recreation Asset Management and Grants (Business Operations and Administration).
- The Commission for Arts & Culture, as well as the Office of Special Events, will now be under the direction the Deputy Chief for Community & Legislative Services.
- The Community Services Department will be divided up and individual components of that department will be reassigned as follows:
 - Disability Services to the Office of Ethics and Integrity
 - Community Development Block Grants, as well as Homeless Services, to Economic Development in the City Planning and Community Investment Department.
 - Gang Prevention and Intervention Commission, as well as the Clean Syringe Exchange Program, to the Office of Homeland Security.
- The 6 to 6 program will be transferred to City Schools.

Under the transition, 13 full-time positions—three of them unclassified—will be eliminated.

###